

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN JANUARY 2002

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in January 2002 increased 125% from the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The significant increase in production resulted from the resumption of mining by IMC Phosphates MP Inc., which had suspended its operations for the entire month of December to reduce stocks. In addition, production in the Idaho and Utah returned to near average after weather-related decreases last month. Annualized production for the month was 33.3 million metric tons, which was about 4% higher than total production in 2001.

Domestic phosphate rock sold or used, excluding exports for January, increased 3% from the prior month, to 2.8 million tons. Annualized sales or use for the month was 33.3 million

tons, which was about 2% higher than the total for 2001.

U.S. producer ending stocks for January were about 3% higher than the figure shown in December.

Some phosphate rock import data for Morocco were suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau. U.S. import tonnage in 2001 was estimated by USGS to average 208,000 tons per month. January import data were not available at the time of publication.

Annualized domestic consumption for 2002 was calculated to be 35.8 million tons, using annualized sold and used data and estimated trade data. Apparent domestic consumption for 2001, calculated from the sum of home deliveries and adjusted trade data, was 35.2 million tons.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS, BY REGION 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Region and period	Marketable production	Sold and/or used	Ending stocks 2/
United States:			
2001 p/:			
January	2,850	2,960	8,130
February	3,020	2,590	8,560
March	3,280	2,950	8,920
April	3,110	2,690	9,370
May	3,580	2,730	10,200
June	2,950	2,450	10,700
July	1,360	2,430	9,660
August	2,620	2,840	9,450
September	2,710	2,680	9,390
October	2,770	2,840	9,320
November	2,570	2,880	9,010
December	1,260	2,760	7,310
January-December	32,100	32,800	XX
2002:			
January	2,830	2,830	7,530
Florida and North Carolina:			
2001 p/:			
January	2,540	2,540	6,750
February	2,560	2,230	7,080
March	2,870	2,530	7,460
April	2,700	2,240	7,950
May	2,520	2,210	8,260
June	2,280	2,020	8,520
July	1,050	2,130	7,440
August	2,220	2,430	7,240
September	2,160	2,320	6,990
October	2,400	2,520	6,870
November	2,370	2,480	6,760
December	W	2,460	5,310
January-December	W	28,100	XX
2002:			
January	2,550	2,470	5,610
Idaho and Utah:			
2001 p/:			
January	308	420	1,380
February	465	365	1,480
March	410	422	1,460
April	406	449	1,420
May	1,060	515	1,970
June	669	426	2,210
July	313	302	2,220
August	401	413	2,200
September	556	364	2,400
October	373	322	2,450
November	197	398	2,250
December	W	300	2,000
January-December	W	4,700	XX
2002:			
January	277	362	1,920

p/ Preliminary. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. XX Not applicable.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK 1/ 2/ 3/

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value
2000:		
December	1	66
January - December	663	34,400
Total year 4/	1,930	100,000
2001		
January	--	--
February	142	7,370
March	67	3,680
April	--	--
May	64	3,110
June	66	3,230
July	--	--
August	60	3,290
September	114	4,470
October	156	6,800
November	134	6,320
December	54	2,120
Total	857	40,400
Total year 4/	2,500	119,000

-- Zero.

1/ C.i.f. (cost, insurance, and freight) values at U.S. ports.

2/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Data for the current month were not available at time of publication.

4/ Includes an estimate for data suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data on the majority of phosphate rock imports from Morocco were suppressed by Census.

TABLE 3
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2000	2001 p/	2002 1/
Marketable production:			
Florida and North Carolina	33.3	W	30.0
Idaho and Utah	5.3	W	3.3
Total 2/	38.6	32.1	33.3
Sold or used by producers:			
Florida and North Carolina	31.9	28.1	29.1
Idaho and Utah	5.5	4.7	4.3
Total 2/	37.4	32.8	33.3
Yearend stocks	8.2	7.3	7.5
Exports 3/	0.3	0.1	--
Average value per ton	\$40.06	\$45.80	--
Imports for consumption e/	1.9	2.5	2.5
Average value per ton	\$51.88	47.60	NA
Apparent consumption e/ 4/	39.0	35.2	35.8

e/ Estimated. p/ Preliminary. NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. -- Zero.

1/ Annualized data.

2/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

3/ Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

4/ Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports minus exports.